

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) Domestic cleaning device comprising: a staff-type structure (1, 5); joined to the end of said staff-type structure (1, 5), a central element (20A) of a base (20) which comprises two lateral portions (20B) which are joined to said central element (20A); resilient members that tend to open out said lateral portions; a fork member (12) with a tubular extension (12A) which can be slid along said staff (1, 5) with the aid of a grip (14), said fork member (12) having inner profiles (12B) for contact with the lateral portions (20B) of said base (20); on said base (20), means for attaching and releasing a replaceable assembly (36); said replaceable assembly (36) consisting of a sponge layer (38) bonded to rigid flat elements (40) provided with means (40A, 40B, 40C) for interacting with means (44, 46) for attaching said assembly to said base (20) and releasing it therefrom; the sliding of said staff-type structure (1, 5) with respect to said fork member (12) causing said base (20) to flex, against the elastic force which tends to spread it out, and consequently causing the flexing and squeezing of the sponge layer (38), characterized in that said base (20) is made by molding with co-molded rubber layers (26) to form elastic joints between said central element (20A) and said two lateral portions (20B), the components (20A, 20B) of the synthetic resin base (20) being connected with thin layers (24) at the positions of said joints.

2. (Currently Amended) Device according to Claim 1 or 2, characterized in that each of the lateral portions (20B) of said base (20) forms a seat (20F) for a roller (32), which can make rolling contact with the corresponding inner shaped profile (12B) of the fork member

(12), to facilitate the squeezing operation by their contact with said S-shaped inner profiles (12B).

3. (Currently Amended) Device according to Claim 1 ~~at least~~, characterized in that it comprises a sleeve (5, 5A) which can be mounted onto and engaged with the lower end of the staff (1), said sleeve forming a seat (9) for joining to said base (20) and having an elastic catch (7) which can engage slidably in a longitudinal slot (16) of the tubular extension (12A) of the fork member (12), thereby limiting the longitudinal travel of said fork.

4. (Currently Amended) Device according to Claim 3, characterized in that it comprises a screw connection between the end (3A) of the staff (1) and the end (5A) of said sleeve (5, 5A) and an angular fastening (7, 7A) for the operations of connecting the staff to the assembly (12, 20) of the device and releasing it therefrom.

5. (Currently Amended) Device according to ~~at least any one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, characterized in that it comprises, as a replaceable component, the assembly (36) with the sponge layer (38) and the flat elements (40), these elements (40) forming, on one side, strips (40A) and, on the other side, flexible fastenings (40B) for interacting with slots (44) and with appendages (46) of said base (20), and also forming stops (40C) interacting with ribs (20K) of the base (20).

6. (Currently Amended) Device according to Claim 5, characterized in that it comprises a screw connection between the end ~~(3A)~~ of the staff ~~(1)~~ and the end ~~(5A)~~ of said sleeve ~~(5, 5A)~~ and an angular fastening ~~(7, 7A)~~ for the operations of connecting the staff to the assembly ~~(12, 20)~~ of the device and releasing it therefrom.

7. (Currently Amended) Device according to ~~at least any one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, characterized in that it comprises, as a replaceable component, the assembly ~~(36)~~ with the sponge layer ~~(38)~~ and the flat elements ~~(40)~~, these elements ~~(40)~~ forming, on one side, strips ~~(40A)~~ and, on the other side, flexible fastenings ~~(40B)~~ for interacting with slots ~~(44)~~ and with appendages ~~(46)~~ of said base ~~(20)~~, and also forming stops ~~(40C)~~ interacting with ribs ~~(20K)~~ of the base ~~(20)~~.

8. (New) Device according to Claim 2, characterized in that each of the lateral portions of said base forms a seat for a roller, which can make rolling contact with the corresponding inner shaped profile of the fork member, to facilitate the squeezing operation by their contact with said S-shaped inner profiles.